

Application No. 10/675,663
Amendment dated 5/9/05
Reply to Office Action of 2/10/05

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently amended) A door lock mechanism for a door comprising:
2 a door handle configured to be moved movable from a rest position to an
3 activated position by a user thereof;
4 a first bias spring biasing the door handle to return to the rest position;
5 a lock button movable at least from an unlocked position to a locked position,
6 wherein when the lock button is in the locked position an associated door lock
7 mechanism is locked thereby preventing the door from being opened at least from an
8 ~~the exterior of a the vehicle~~ and wherein the lock button is configured such that when it
9 is in an unlocked position the lock button is capable of inadvertently being moved to its
10 locked position by ~~at least the operation of the door handle~~;
11 the lock mechanism and lock button being configured such that a release of the
12 door handle under certain conditions from its activated position initiates movement of
13 the lock button to its locked position;
14 the lock mechanism further includes a lever assembly for blocking the lock button
15 from moving to the locked position of the lock button in response to a return movement
16 ~~the quick release of the door handle from its actuated position to its rest position.~~

1 2. (Currently Amended) ~~The lock mechanism as defined in Claim 1~~
2 A door lock mechanism for a door comprising:
3 a door handle configured to be moved from a rest position to an activated
4 position by a user thereof;
5 a first bias spring biasing the door handle to return to the rest position;
6 a lock button movable at least from an unlocked position to a locked position,
7 wherein when the lock button is in the locked position an associated door lock
8 mechanism is locked thereby preventing the door from being opened at least from an
9 exterior of a vehicle and wherein the lock button is configured such that when it is in an

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10 unlocked position the lock button is capable of being moved to its locked position by at
11 least the operation of the door handle;
12 the lock mechanism and lock button being configured such that a release of the
13 door handle under certain conditions from its activated position initiates movement of
14 the lock button to its locked position;
15 the lock mechanism further includes a lever assembly for blocking the lock button
16 from moving to the locked position of the lock button in response to a return movement
17 of the door handle from its actuated position to its rest position;
18 wherein the lock mechanism further includes bias means for selectively biasing
19 the lever assembly to move toward a blocking position.

1 3. (Currently amended) The lock mechanism as defined in Claim 1 wherein the door
2 handle is configured to rotate about a first axis and wherein the lever means is
3 configured to rotate about a second axis, wherein the second axis is substantially
4 perpendicular to ~~orientated at a determinable angle relative to the first axis.~~

1 4. (Currently Amended) ~~The lock mechanism as defined in Claim 1~~
2 A door lock mechanism for a door comprising:
3 a door handle configured to be moved from a rest position to an activated
4 position by a user thereof;
5 a first bias spring biasing the door handle to return to the rest position;
6 a lock button movable at least from an unlocked position to a locked position,
7 wherein when the lock button is in the locked position an associated door lock
8 mechanism is locked thereby preventing the door from being opened at least from an
9 exterior of a vehicle and wherein the lock button is configured such that when it is in an
10 unlocked position the lock button is capable of being moved to its locked position by at
11 least the operation of the door handle;
12 the lock mechanism and lock button being configured such that a release of the
13 door handle under certain conditions from its activated position initiates movement of
14 the lock button to its locked position;

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15 the lock mechanism further includes a lever assembly for blocking the lock button
16 from moving to the locked position of the lock button in response to a return movement
17 of the door handle from its actuated position to its rest position;
18 wherein the door handle is configured to rotate about a first axis and wherein the
19 lever means is configured to rotate about a second axis, wherein the second axis is
20 perpendicular to the first axis.

1 5. (Currently Amended) The lock mechanism as defined in Claim [[1]] 3 wherein the
2 lock button is configured to rotate about a third axis, the third axis being generally
3 parallel to the first axis.

1 6. (Currently Amended) ~~The lock mechanism as defined in Claim 1~~
2 A door lock mechanism for a door comprising:
3 a door handle configured to be moved from a rest position to an activated
4 position by a user thereof;
5 a first bias spring biasing the door handle to return to the rest position;
6 a lock button movable at least from an unlocked position to a locked position,
7 wherein when the lock button is in the locked position an associated door lock
8 mechanism is locked thereby preventing the door from being opened at least from an
9 exterior of a vehicle and wherein the lock button is configured such that when it is in an
10 unlocked position the lock button is capable of being moved to its locked position by at
11 least the operation of the door handle;
12 the lock mechanism and lock button being configured such that a release of the
13 door handle under certain conditions from its activated position initiates movement of
14 the lock button to its locked position;
15 the lock mechanism further includes a lever assembly for blocking the lock button
16 from moving to the locked position of the lock button in response to a return movement
17 of the door handle from its actuated position to its rest position;
18 including sequencing means for moving the lever assembly to a position remote
19 from the lock button.

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1 7. (Original) The lock mechanism as defined in Claim 6 wherein the lever assembly
2 sequencing means is configured to be moved to the remote position as the door handle
3 returns to its rest position.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The lock mechanism as defined in Claim 6 [[1]]
2 further including a lock button bias means for biasing the lock button toward the
3 lock position.

1 9. (Original) The lock mechanism as defined in Claim 1 including stop means for
2 preventing the lever assembly from rotating beyond a desired blocking position.

1 10. (New) The lock mechanism as defined in Claim 2 including stop means for
2 preventing the lever assembly from rotating beyond a desired blocking position.

1 11. (New) The lock mechanism as defined in Claim 4 including stop means for
2 preventing the lever assembly from rotating beyond a desired blocking position.

1 12. (New) The lock mechanism as defined in Claim 6 including stop means for
2 preventing the lever assembly from rotating beyond a desired blocking position.

1 13. (New) The lock mechanism as defined in Claim 8 including stop means for
2 preventing the lever assembly from rotating beyond a desired blocking position.